

## **IC 35-47-2**

### **Chapter 2. Regulation of Handguns**

#### **IC 35-47-2-1**

##### **Carrying a handgun without a license or by person convicted of domestic battery**

Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) and section 2 of this chapter, a person shall not carry a handgun in any vehicle or on or about the person's body, except in the person's dwelling, on the person's property or fixed place of business, without a license issued under this chapter being in the person's possession.

(b) Unless the person's right to possess a firearm has been restored under IC 3-7-13-5 or IC 33-4-5-7, a person who has been convicted of domestic battery under IC 35-42-2-1.3 may not possess or carry a handgun in any vehicle or on or about the person's body in the person's dwelling or on the person's property or fixed place of business.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.326-1987, SEC.1; P.L.195-2003, SEC.6.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-2**

##### **Excepted persons**

Sec. 2. Section 1 of this chapter does not apply to:

- (1) marshals;
- (2) sheriffs;
- (3) the commissioner of the department of correction or persons authorized by him in writing to carry firearms;
- (4) judicial officers;
- (5) law enforcement officers;
- (6) members of the armed forces of the United States or of the national guard or organized reserves while they are on duty;
- (7) regularly enrolled members of any organization duly authorized to purchase or receive such weapons from the United States or from this state who are at or are going to or from their place of assembly or target practice;
- (8) employees of the United States duly authorized to carry handguns;
- (9) employees of express companies when engaged in company business;
- (10) any person engaged in the business of manufacturing, repairing, or dealing in firearms or the agent or representative of any such person having in his possession, using, or carrying a handgun in the usual or ordinary course of that business; or
- (11) any person while carrying a handgun unloaded and in a secure wrapper from the place of purchase to his dwelling or fixed place of business, or to a place of repair or back to his dwelling or fixed place of business, or in moving from one dwelling or business to another.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

### **IC 35-47-2-3**

#### **Application for license to carry handgun; procedure**

Sec. 3. (a) A person desiring a license to carry a handgun shall apply:

- (1) to the chief of police or corresponding law enforcement officer of the municipality in which the applicant resides;
- (2) if that municipality has no such officer, or if the applicant does not reside in a municipality, to the sheriff of the county in which the applicant resides after the applicant has obtained an application form prescribed by the superintendent; or
- (3) if the applicant is a resident of another state and has a regular place of business or employment in Indiana, to the sheriff of the county in which the applicant has a regular place of business or employment.

(b) The law enforcement agency which accepts an application for a handgun license shall collect a ten dollar (\$10) application fee, five dollars (\$5) of which shall be refunded if the license is not issued. Except as provided in subsection (h), the fee shall be:

- (1) deposited into the law enforcement agency's firearms training fund or other appropriate training activities fund; and
- (2) used by the agency for the purpose of:
  - (A) training law enforcement officers in the proper use of firearms or other law enforcement duties; or
  - (B) purchasing for the law enforcement officers employed by the law enforcement agency firearms, or firearm related equipment, or both.

The state board of accounts shall establish rules for the proper accounting and expenditure of funds collected under this subsection.

(c) The officer to whom the application is made shall ascertain the applicant's name, full address, length of residence in the community, whether the applicant's residence is located within the limits of any city or town, the applicant's occupation, place of business or employment, criminal record, if any, and convictions (minor traffic offenses excepted), age, race, sex, nationality, date of birth, citizenship, height, weight, build, color of hair, color of eyes, scars and marks, whether the applicant has previously held an Indiana license to carry a handgun and, if so, the serial number of the license and year issued, whether the applicant's license has ever been suspended or revoked, and if so, the year and reason for the suspension or revocation, and the applicant's reason for desiring a license. The officer to whom the application is made shall conduct an investigation into the applicant's official records and verify thereby the applicant's character and reputation, and shall in addition verify for accuracy the information contained in the application, and shall forward this information together with his recommendation for approval or disapproval and one (1) set of legible and classifiable fingerprints of the applicant to the superintendent.

(d) The superintendent may make whatever further investigation the superintendent deems necessary. Whenever disapproval is recommended, the officer to whom the application is made shall

provide the superintendent and the applicant with the officer's complete and specific reasons, in writing, for the recommendation of disapproval.

(e) If it appears to the superintendent that the applicant has a proper reason for carrying a handgun and is of good character and reputation and a proper person to be so licensed, the superintendent shall issue to the applicant a qualified or an unlimited license to carry any handgun lawfully possessed by the applicant. The original license shall be delivered to the licensee. A copy shall be delivered to the officer to whom the application for license was made. A copy shall be retained by the superintendent for at least four (4) years. This license shall be valid for a period of four (4) years from the date of issue. The license of police officers, sheriffs or their deputies, and law enforcement officers of the United States government who have been honorably retired by a lawfully created pension board or its equivalent after twenty (20) or more years of service, shall be valid for the life of such individuals. However, such lifetime licenses are automatically revoked if the license holder does not remain a proper person.

(f) At the time a license is issued and delivered to a licensee under subsection (e), the superintendent shall include with the license information concerning handgun safety rules that:

(1) neither opposes nor supports an individual's right to bear arms; and

(2) is:

(A) recommended by a nonprofit educational organization that is dedicated to providing education on safe handling and use of firearms;

(B) prepared by the state police department; and

(C) approved by the superintendent.

The superintendent may not deny a license under this section because the information required under this subsection is unavailable at the time the superintendent would otherwise issue a license. The state police department may accept private donations or grants to defray the cost of printing and mailing the information required under this subsection.

(g) A license to carry a handgun shall not be issued to any person who:

(1) has been convicted of a felony;

(2) is under eighteen (18) years of age;

(3) is under twenty-three (23) years of age if the person has been adjudicated a delinquent child for an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult; or

(4) has been arrested for a Class A or Class B felony, or any other felony that was committed while armed with a deadly weapon or that involved the use of violence, if a court has found probable cause to believe that the person committed the offense charged.

In the case of an arrest under subdivision (4), a license to carry a handgun may be issued to a person who has been acquitted of the

specific offense charged or if the charges for the specific offense are dismissed. The superintendent shall prescribe all forms to be used in connection with the administration of this chapter.

(h) If the law enforcement agency that charges a fee under subsection (b) is a city or town law enforcement agency, the fee shall be deposited in the law enforcement continuing education fund established under IC 5-2-8-2.

(i) If a person who holds a valid license to carry a handgun issued under this chapter:

(1) changes the person's name; or

(2) changes the person's address;

the person shall, not later than sixty (60) days after the date of the change, notify the superintendent, in writing, of the person's new name or new address.

(j) The state police shall indicate on the form for a license to carry a handgun the notification requirements of subsection (i).

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.26-1990, SEC.15; P.L.48-1993, SEC.5; P.L.140-1994, SEC.6; P.L.269-1995, SEC.6; P.L.2-1996, SEC.284; P.L.27-2001, SEC.1; P.L.120-2001, SEC.1.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-4**

##### **Qualified or unlimited licenses to carry handguns; fees; exemptions from payment of fees**

Sec. 4. (a) Licenses to carry handguns shall be either qualified or unlimited. A qualified license shall be issued for hunting and target practice. The superintendent may adopt rules imposing limitations on the use and carrying of handguns under a license when handguns are carried by a licensee as a condition of employment. Unlimited licenses shall be issued for the purpose of the protection of life and property.

(b) In addition to the application fee, the fee for a qualified license shall be five dollars (\$5), and the fee for an unlimited license shall be fifteen dollars (\$15). The superintendent shall charge a five dollar (\$5) fee for the issuance of a duplicate license to replace a lost or damaged license. These fees shall be deposited by the superintendent with the treasurer of state.

(c) Licensed dealers are exempt from the payment of fees specified in subsection (b) for a qualified license or an unlimited license.

(d) The following officers of this state or the United States who have been honorably retired by a lawfully created pension board or its equivalent after at least twenty (20) years of service or because of a disability are exempt from the payment of fees specified in subsection (b):

(1) Police officers.

(2) Sheriffs or their deputies.

(3) Law enforcement officers.

(4) Correctional officers.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.209-1986,*

*SEC.1; P.L.148-1987, SEC.4; P.L.75-1989, SEC.9.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-5**

##### **Suspension or revocation of license; failure to return license; rules concerning procedure for suspending or revoking license**

Sec. 5. (a) The superintendent may suspend or revoke any license issued under this chapter if he has reasonable grounds to believe that the person's license should be suspended or revoked.

(b) Documented evidence that a person is not a "proper person" to be licensed as defined by IC 35-47-1-7, or is prohibited under section 3(g)(4) of this chapter from being issued a license, shall be grounds for immediate suspension or revocation of a license previously issued under this chapter. However, if a license is suspended or revoked based solely on an arrest under section 3(g)(4) of this chapter, the license shall be reinstated upon the acquittal of the defendant in that case or upon the dismissal of the charges for the specific offense.

(c) A person who fails to promptly return his license after written notice of suspension or revocation commits a Class A misdemeanor. The observation of a handgun license in the possession of a person whose license has been suspended or revoked constitutes a sufficient basis for the arrest of that person for violation of this subsection.

(d) The superintendent shall establish rules under IC 4-22-2 concerning the procedure for suspending or revoking a person's license.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.140-1994, SEC.7; P.L.2-1996, SEC.285; P.L.120-2001, SEC.2.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-6**

##### **Granting or rejecting initial application; renewals**

Sec. 6. Every initial application for any license under this chapter shall be granted or rejected within sixty (60) days after the application is filed. If the application for renewal of an existing license is filed within thirty (30) days of its expiration, the existing license is automatically extended until the application for renewal is passed upon.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-7**

##### **Prohibited sales or transfers of ownership**

Sec. 7. (a) Except an individual acting within a parent-minor child or guardian-minor protected person relationship or any other individual who is also acting in compliance with IC 35-47-10, a person may not sell, give, or in any other manner transfer the ownership or possession of a handgun or assault weapon (as defined in IC 35-50-2-11) to any person under eighteen (18) years of age.

(b) It is unlawful for a person to sell, give, or in any manner transfer the ownership or possession of a handgun to another person who the person has reasonable cause to believe:

(1) has been:

- (A) convicted of a felony; or
- (B) adjudicated a delinquent child for an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, if the person seeking to obtain ownership or possession of the handgun is less than twenty-three (23) years of age;
- (2) is a drug abuser;
- (3) is an alcohol abuser; or
- (4) is mentally incompetent.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.33-1989, SEC.126; P.L.140-1994, SEC.8; P.L.269-1995, SEC.7.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-8**

##### **Regulation of sale of handguns imposed by this chapter; application**

Sec. 8. The regulation of the sale of handguns imposed by this chapter shall apply equally to an occasional sale, trade, or transfer between individual persons and to retail transactions between dealers and individual persons.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.17-1997, SEC.6.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-9 Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.17-1997, SEC.9.)*

#### **IC 35-47-2-10**

##### **Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.17-1997, SEC.9.)*

#### **IC 35-47-2-11**

##### **Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.17-1997, SEC.9.)*

#### **IC 35-47-2-12**

##### **Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.17-1997, SEC.9.)*

#### **IC 35-47-2-13**

##### **Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.17-1997, SEC.10.)*

#### **IC 35-47-2-14**

##### **Necessity of retail handgun dealer's license; display**

Sec. 14. A retail dealer who:

- (1) sells;
- (2) trades;
- (3) transfers;
- (4) exposes for sale, trade, or transfer; or
- (5) possesses with intent to sell, trade, or transfer;

any handgun without being licensed under sections 15 and 16 of this chapter and without displaying his license at all times commits a

Class B misdemeanor.  
*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

### **IC 35-47-2-15**

#### **Retail handgun dealer's license; application procedure**

Sec. 15. (a) A person desiring a retail handgun dealer's license shall apply to the sheriff of the county in which he resides, or if he is a resident of another state and has a regular place of business in Indiana, then to the sheriff of the county in which he has a regular place of business. The applicant shall state his name, full address, occupation, sex, race, age, place of birth, date of birth, nationality, height, weight, build, color of eyes, color of hair, complexion, scars and marks, and any criminal record (minor traffic offenses excepted). The officer to whom the application is made shall verify the application and search his records concerning the applicant's character and reputation.

(b) The officer to whom the application is made shall send to the superintendent:

- (1) the verified application;
- (2) the results of the officer's investigation; and
- (3) the officer's recommendation for approval or disapproval of the application;

in as many copies as the superintendent shall designate, and one (1) set of legible and classifiable fingerprints of the applicant. The superintendent may make whatever further investigation he deems necessary. Whenever disapproval is recommended by the officer to whom the application was made, he shall provide the superintendent and the applicant with his complete reasons for the disapproval in writing. If the officer to whom the application is made recommends approval, he shall instruct the applicant in the proper method of taking legible and classifiable fingerprints. If it appears to the superintendent that the applicant is of good character and reputation and a proper person to be licensed, he shall issue to the applicant a retail handgun dealer's license which shall be valid for a period of two (2) years from the date of issue. The fee for the license shall be twenty dollars (\$20), which shall be deposited with the officer to whom the application is made, who shall in turn forward it to the superintendent for deposit with the treasurer of state when the application is approved by the superintendent. In the event that the application is disapproved by the superintendent, the fee shall be returned to the applicant along with the complete reasons, in writing, for the disapproval.

(c) No retail dealer's license shall be issued to any person who has been:

- (1) convicted of a felony; or
- (2) adjudicated a delinquent child for an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, if the person applying for the retail dealer's license is less than twenty-three (23) years of age; in Indiana or any other state or country.

(d) A retail dealer's license shall permit the licensee to sell

handguns at retail within this state subject to the conditions specified in this chapter. The license may be suspended or revoked in accordance with applicable law, and the licensee may be subject to punishment as provided in this chapter.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.191-1984, SEC.4; P.L.269-1995, SEC.9.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-16**

##### **Retail handgun dealer's license; restrictions; display; prohibited sales; gun show**

Sec. 16. (a) A retail dealer's business shall be carried on only in the site designated in the license. A separate license shall be required for each separate retail outlet. Whenever a licensed dealer moves his place of business, he shall promptly notify the superintendent, who shall at once issue an amended license certificate valid for the balance of the license period. This subsection does not apply to sales at wholesale.

(b) The license, certified by the issuing authority, shall be displayed on the business premises in a prominent place where it can be seen easily by prospective customers.

(c) No handgun shall be sold:

(1) in violation of any provision of this chapter; or

(2) under any circumstances unless the purchaser is personally known to the seller or presents clear evidence of his identity.

(d) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a retail dealer may display, sell, or transfer handguns at a gun show in accordance with this chapter and federal law.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.191-1984, SEC.5; P.L.148-1987, SEC.5.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-17**

##### **Giving false information or offering false evidence of identity; violation of section**

Sec. 17. No person, in purchasing or otherwise securing delivery of a handgun or in applying for a license to carry a handgun, shall give false information or offer false evidence of identity. In addition to any penalty provided by this chapter, any handgun obtained through false information shall be subject to confiscation and disposition as provided in this chapter. Upon notice of a violation of this section by the superintendent, it shall be the duty of the sheriff or chief of police or corresponding officer of the jurisdiction in which the purchaser resides to confiscate the firearm and retain it as evidence pending trial for the offense.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-18**

##### **Obliterating identification marks on handgun or possession of such handguns prohibited**

Sec. 18. No person shall:

(1) change, alter, remove, or obliterate the name of the maker,



model, manufacturer's serial number, or other mark of identification on any handgun; or

(2) possess any handgun on which the name of the maker, model, manufacturer's serial number, or other mark of identification has been changed, altered, removed, or obliterated;

except as provided by applicable United States statute.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-19**

##### **Application of chapter**

Sec. 19. This chapter does not apply to any firearm not designed to use fixed cartridges or fixed ammunition, or any firearm made before January 1, 1899.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-20**

##### **Removal of disability under this chapter**

Sec. 20. (a) A full pardon from the governor of Indiana for:

(1) a felony other than a felony that is included in IC 35-42; or

(2) a violation of this chapter;

removes any disability under this chapter imposed because of that offense, if fifteen (15) years have elapsed between the time of the offense and the application for a license under this chapter.

(b) A conditional pardon described in IC 11-9-2-4 for:

(1) a felony; or

(2) a violation of this chapter;

removes a disability under this chapter if the superintendent determines after an investigation that circumstances have changed since the pardoned conviction was entered to such an extent that the pardoned person is likely to handle handguns in compliance with the law.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.191-1984, SEC.6; P.L.148-1987, SEC.6.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-21**

##### **Recognition of retail dealers' licenses and licenses to carry handguns issued by other states**

Sec. 21. (a) Retail dealers' licenses issued by other states or foreign countries will not be recognized in Indiana except for sales at wholesale.

(b) Licenses to carry handguns, issued by other states or foreign countries, will be recognized according to the terms thereof but only while the holders are not residents of Indiana.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

#### **IC 35-47-2-22**

##### **Use of unlawful handgun-carrying license to obtain handgun prohibited**

Sec. 22. It is unlawful for any person to use, or to attempt to use,

a false, counterfeit, spurious, or altered handgun-carrying license to obtain a handgun contrary to the provisions of this chapter.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*

### **IC 35-47-2-23**

#### **Violations; classes of misdemeanors and felonies**

Sec. 23. (a) A person who violates section 3, 4, 5, 14, 15, or 16 of this chapter commits a Class B misdemeanor.

(b) A person who violates section 7, 17, or 18 of this chapter commits a Class C felony.

(c) A person who violates section 1 of this chapter commits a Class A misdemeanor. However, the offense is a Class C felony:

(1) if the offense is committed:

(A) on or in school property;

(B) within one thousand (1,000) feet of school property; or

(C) on a school bus; or

(2) if the person:

(A) has a prior conviction of any offense under:

(i) this subsection; or

(ii) subsection (d); or

(B) has been convicted of a felony within fifteen (15) years before the date of the offense.

(d) A person who violates section 22 of this chapter commits a Class A misdemeanor. However, the offense is a Class D felony if the person has a prior conviction of any offense under this subsection or subsection (c), or if the person has been convicted of a felony within fifteen (15) years before the date of the offense.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32. Amended by P.L.16-1984, SEC.20; P.L.140-1994, SEC.9; P.L.17-1997, SEC.7.*

### **IC 35-47-2-24**

#### **Indictment or information; defendant's burden to prove exemption or license; arrest, effect of production of valid license, or establishment of exemption**

Sec. 24. (a) In an information or indictment brought for the enforcement of any provision of this chapter, it is not necessary to negate any exemption specified under this chapter, or to allege the absence of a license required under this chapter. The burden of proof is on the defendant to prove that he is exempt under section 2 of this chapter, or that he has a license as required under this chapter.

(b) Whenever a person who has been arrested or charged with a violation of section 1 of this chapter presents a valid license to the prosecuting attorney or establishes that he is exempt under section 2 of this chapter, any prosecution for a violation of section 1 of this chapter shall be dismissed immediately, and all records of an arrest or proceedings following arrest shall be destroyed immediately.

*As added by P.L.311-1983, SEC.32.*